The Virgins A. B. C.

OR,

An Alphabet of vertuous Admonitions for a chaſte, modeſt, and well governed Maid. To the tune of, *The Young-mans A B. C.*

A. A youthfull virgins
in this young glaſs eaſe,
And learne the leſſons
which are taught you here.
The Alphabet of Vertues
here are ſet,
And being learnd
doe make a ſpotts compleat.

B. Bare not a feynefull mind,
although you are
Beauteous as Hellen,
as like Venus faire;
It ill becomes
a Lacedæan female and white,
To ſpotted anger
in a Lowers light.

C. Vſe ſtore a modeſt carriage,
and ſtill be
Courteous, and not too coy
in company:
Many ye fineſt Changlings
are too much inclind,
Will be borne a beauty face,
and fayneſull mind.

D. Diſcreetfull never ſhame,
nay yet ſo much
Diſtruſt on thy faces beauty,
neglecting ſuch
As ſue for thy Love,
leſt ſtooping age come on,
And ſhew too late
your folly you bemoane.

E. Eſtrange no Love,
but ſtrange conſtant be,
eſteeme true Love
a perfect treaſury;
For labors true Love
and beauty both unite,
To pleaſe both parties
both their hearts delight.

F. Give no affection
but where beauty are yoke,
Give there your heart,
but there your love be plate't,
For if by fulſome ſuites
Lovers ſhould be ty'd,
It ſhould diſtaſte
their Graces & Pride.

G. Vſe not to game,
though fooliſh fortune ſue,
Great ſtore of wealth,
and her beſt gifts beſtow:
For thoſe the Gameſter layes,
muſt have a fall,
Vſe to muſt ſpotteons,
Will-Dowes, quines and all.

H. Vſe not too much
for marriage, nay the thing
will both both not pleaſure only,
but griefe bring,
For haſty Lovers
often doe deſtroy
The flowrs of Love,
ere they their hopes enjoy.

I. Yet you ſhall
a ſpouſe whom you affect,
Reject him not
with any diſreſpect;
But hearty be,
and ere Love knot you tie,
Prove firſt your ſtate,
and then his conſtancie.

K. Knowledge is gaind
by experience, and by this
Know we all ſtriue
unto the height of vertue;
Firſt try, then truſt;
and when you both have
you may both love, (proov'd
and be as well beſeem'd.

L. Make wryden leape,
the proverbe ſtill doth ſay,
Let no humble ſemblance
your love to luſt betray;
For intent groſſe
a ſpeake to often found,
And flatterers tongues
with fayſhood muſt abound.

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The second Part, To the same Tune.

Matter not so much,
nay 'tis thy blessed lot,
which sometimes must
become a virtuous spoile:
yet 'tis not to
nasty bawdrie, lest you be
pitied as a fool
for your immodestie.

My last rich Treasure, (that's
hard when thou hast at-
Thou hast a beauteous
spotless cheek beauty guilty.
And if fates envious
doe thy comforts bere,
Like locks shall Mourning
thou shalt bright appeare.

My too watchfull eyes,
no private sight,
May be pretended
unchastitie to slight,
But keepe a chaste
behaviour, that you may,
Have good respect
in every kind of way.

Mine Beauty's but
a trifle, that a subtile
Nurse Nature lends thee
onely a flattering smile,
Which Lovers gaze at,
and with greasy hands,
Each one to crop
a blossome of it stands.

Stand not with
a thick and flattering tongue
Others, that doe
not with thee any wrong,
But speake thou well
of all, and always doe
With others, as (you.
you'd have them unto with

Wife in its fullest
ripenesse it to grahams,
When its decay'd,
their loves nor with it goes
Let this then be
thy care, and chiefest strife,
To live a vertuous death,
an honest life.

Paint not your beauty
when it is decay'd,
Dote not that on
a Jewell, which must fade,
And when you have done
your best whitest stayne,
And through red cheeks
a wrinckled brow display.

Antippe-like,
the Wife of Socrates,
Affront not them
thy husband to displease,
Nor with a railing
tongue perfue him still,
But in humility
obey his will.

Wench in thy cold
all lustful inflaming fires,
Which may provoke
thee to unchaste desires,
For though a while (mind,
such pleasures please thy
Yet sorrow, shame,
and beggery runne behind.

Cold not to others
when you once are loos'd,
The pleasures of
your lawfull husbands bed;
For if thou guilty
be of such an act,
Then shalt not scape
unpunisht for thy fact.

Remember next
how like a fading flower,
Rich earths best treasures
vanish in an hower,
And how the best
of things that you enjoy,
The filth of Time
will eat, and Death destroy.

Jealous then be
in all these Vertues, prove
Both constant, chast,
and loyall in your love.
And if these Lessons
well thou learnst, for thee
This truely still,
The Virgins A B C.

Take therefore richer
gifts than thee can give,
For shalt thou in
a state futurer live:
For though frayle beauty
decks thy outward part,
Yet inward vertue
best adornes the heart.

FINIS.

Printed at London by *M. P.* for *F. Coules*, dwelling in the Old-baily.